

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

A2
1 (Currently Amended). A papermaking felt comprising a ground fabric layer composed of a woven fabric, and a fibrous web placed on at least one side of the ground fabric layer, the ground fabric layer and fibrous web being integrally intertwined by needling, and the ground fabric layer having a warp and weft, each comprising ~~distributed~~ yarns, wherein at least part of the ~~distributed~~ yarns of the warp or weft of the ground fabric layer consists of straight yarns.

2 (Currently Amended). A papermaking felt comprising a ground fabric layer ~~composed of~~ comprising a woven fabric, and a fibrous web placed on at least one side of the ground fabric layer, the ground fabric layer and fibrous web being integrally intertwined by needling, and the ground fabric layer having a warp and weft, wherein the ground fabric layer ~~is composed of winding yarns, and~~ includes additional straight yarns [evenly] inserted along ~~its~~ the warp or weft of said woven fabric.

A3
3 (New). A papermaking felt according to claim 2, in which said additional straight yarns are evenly distributed along said warp or weft.

4 (New). A papermaking felt according to claim 2, in which the number of said additional straight yarns is at least 40% of the number of yarns in the warp and weft of said woven fabric.